

Section 982
REFEREE TESTING

982.01 Purpose

This section details a procedure for referee testing. Referee testing may be requested by the contractor when price adjustment, removal, or correction of material is indicated by the original tests. The purpose of referee testing is to refute or affirm the original test results.

982.02 Scope

This section applies to testing and sampling performed by field personnel. It covers gradation, asphalt content, and compaction tests.

982.03 Procedure

Referee testing must be requested by the contractor. A request for referee testing can only be accepted when price adjustment, correction, removal of materials, or improper workmanship is indicated by the original test results determined or observed by project personnel. Any visible defect in materials for improper workmanship can be rejected by the engineer.

The location of all samples taken for the purpose of referee testing shall be determined randomly through the use of a suitable random number table (ASTM D-3665). Sampling shall be conducted by project personnel.

A contractor's representative shall be present at the time of sampling as well as a representative of one of the following: Region/District Materials Unit, Materials Division, or the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

Laboratory testing, when necessary, shall be conducted by Region/District Materials Laboratory personnel. Acceptance or rejection is based on the referee samples only. Referee samples that pass their referee tests (in favor of the contractor) are those herein labeled acceptable. If the referee samples are acceptable, the contractor is not charged for the additional testing. However, if the referee samples are not acceptable, and thus re-confirm the original testing results, the contractor is charged for the additional testing at a prescribed rate. Price adjustment for unacceptable products (as determined by the referee samples) is based on all samples, that is, the original test results and the referee results combined.

Referee testing requirements shall be determined according to units designated for evaluation purposes as in the original testing, such as test lots, sub-lots, test sections, test areas, etc. The number of referee tests taken shall not exceed the number of original acceptance tests and shall be agreed upon by the contractor and the engineer prior to testing. Only asphalt content, gradation, and compaction are subject to referee testing.

NOTE: Cores shall be acceptable for use in determining asphalt content and gradation of in-place bituminous mixtures.